

Huntingdon Borough Administrative Committee Meeting Minutes

The Huntingdon Borough Administrative Committee meeting was held in the Borough Council Room, 530 Washington Street, Huntingdon, PA 16652.

Members present were Chairman James Bair, Vice-President David Fortson, Councilwoman Dee Dee Brown, Councilwoman Jennifer Powell, Councilman Robert Jackson, Councilman Terry Green, Councilman David Quarry, Mayor Thomas Yoder, Code Enforcement Officer James Morris, Chief of Police Charles Streightiff, Borough Solicitor Richard Wilson, Borough Manager Chris Stevens and Borough Secretary Richard King.

Guest present were John Cook, Tim Furlong and James Grissinger.

Chairman James Bair recognized the guest present and ask for their comments.

John Cook who resides on Chapel Hill Road talked about the concerns of group homes that are in his area. John said they are not loud or destructive. John said they are running a business where there are paid employees and cars parked throughout the day. John said the neighborhood looks different. John said that he is looking at a trend going into the future.

Councilwoman Dee Dee Brown ask John Cook if this was something he wanted us to look into?

John Cook said yes.

Councilwoman Dee Dee Brown ask if these were residential homes made into group homes?

Chairman James Bair ask CEO James Morris if there was anything in the ordinance about this?

CEO James Morris said the rules permit this, that the activity is inside and not interacting with neighbors, plus there are no signs or any advertisement.

Chairman James Bair ask Tim Furlong if he was aware of all the group home in the borough.

Tim Furlong said no.

Councilwoman Dee Dee Brown ask if there any stipulations as to how many can live in a group home.

Chief Charles Streightiff said he sets on the board on treatment of these people and under the HIPA law you cannot ask this.

Chairman James Bair ask Solicitor Richard Wilson about restricting this.

Solicitor Richard Wilson said there is a Federal Fair Housing Act and American with Disabilities Act. Rich said you need to be very careful on this not to get into a lawsuit. Rich said if council wants him too, he can do some research on this and get back to council.

Borough Council agreed to have Solicitor Richard Wilson do some research on this.

Chairman James Bair ask Chief Streightiff if the Fire Company could get a list of group homes addresses.

Chairman James Bair called on the Mayor's report.

Thomas Yoder had nothing to report.

Chairman James Bair called on the Borough Solicitor's report.

Richard Wilson said he is revising the ordinance on restoration of a public street after excavation and ask Terry about the square footage.

The committee agreed on 200 square feet on any given street plus restrictions.

Chairman James Bair called on the Borough Manager's report.

Chris Stevens continued on the ARP fund money.

Councilwoman Jennifer Powell said she would like to see us add Broadband of \$199,000.00.

Chris Stevens said he is waiting on a quote from ZETO.

Chris Stevens ask if the committee thought that \$60,000.00 was good for the parks and that this is a yearlong picture at getting equipment to arrive.

The committee agreed to raise this to \$100,000.00.

Chairman James Bair called on Old Business.

Chairman James Bair said there was a change made to the Knox Box Ordinance and now there is another change to making it a lock box.

Councilman Robert Jackson ask what if they would go out of business?

Chairman James Bair said they would not go out of business.

There was a very lengthy discussion on this.

**Councilman Terry Green left the meeting at 6:15 PM.**

Chairman James Bair ask what the consensus was on keeping it the Knox Box Ordinance. James then called on each council member: Robert Jackson – Yes; David Quarry – Yes; Dee Dee Brown – Yes; David Fortson – Yes and Jennifer Powell – No.

**The Administrative Committee recommends a motion to approve Ordinance No. 2022-972 to amend the fire protection ordinance as codified at Chapter 7 of the Borough Code of Ordinances, to provide for the regulations of key lock boxes with the Borough and providing for penalties for violations.**

Solicitor Richard Wilson said he will advertise the final draft in the newspaper.

**The Administrative Committee recommends a motion to approve Resolution No. 2022-04 for Authorized Signatures of all Borough Checking Accounts.**

Borough Manager Chris Stevens brought up the Franchise Comcast Agreement and said we have been getting emails and calls about not signing this.

Solicitor Richard Wilson said he has called them and emailed with no response.

Borough Manager Chris Stevens will give Solicitor Richard Wilson the email address and he will send another direct email to them.

Chairman James Bair called on New Business.

CEO James Morris said they are moving forward on the Blair House building and they did testing's. James said that he would suggest we go 60-90 days to have a hearing. James said we will make it April 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM.

Solicitor Richard Wilson said if they are doing things then continue with this, but if they don't then say enough is enough.

Solicitor Richard Wilson said we should probably put something on the borough website that the hearing is being continued till another date.

Executive Session was not called for.

Chairman James Bair called on Any Other Business.

There was nothing reported under Any Other Business.

After no further business, the Administrative Committee meeting was adjourned at 6:27 PM.

Minutes submitted by,

Richard S. King  
Borough Secretary